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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/719,523	11/21/2003	Kenneth J. Rothschild	AMBER-08501	3365
7590	11/20/2006		EXAMINER	
MEDLEN & CARROLL, LLP 101 Howard Street, Suite 350 San Francisco, CA 94105			SCHLAPKOHL, WALTER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1636	

DATE MAILED: 11/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/719,523	ROTHSCHILD ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	<i>W.S.</i>
	Walter Schlapkohl	1636	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 August 2006 and 28 August 2006.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,9,11-13,16,24-29 and 31-37 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 16,24-29 and 31-37 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,9 and 11-13 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 09 September 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/23/2006.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the papers filed 8/23/2006 and of the papers filed 8/28/2006 in which claims 1-2, 5, 9, 12, 16 & 24 were amended, and claims 3, 7-8, 10, 14-15, 17-23 & 30 were cancelled. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 9, 11-13, 16, 24-29 & 31-37 are pending in the instant application. Claims 16, 24-29 & 31-37 are withdrawn.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's amendment to make claim 16 dependent upon claim 2, as well as Applicant's amendment to make claims 24-29 dependent upon claim 16 is acknowledged. However, claims 16 and 24-29 do NOT comprise elected subject matter and as such stand WITHDRAWN according to the restriction requirement, which was made final in the previous Office action mailed 5/23/2006. Applicant has attempted to rejoin an invention of a different statutory class prior to allowance of all of the elected product claims. Applicant is reminded that the requirements for rejoinder in such situations are as follows with the most relevant portions underlined:

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Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder. All claims directed to a nonelected process invention must require all the limitations of an allowable product claim for that process invention to be rejoined.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112. Until all claims to the elected product are found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowable product claim will not be rejoined. See MPEP § 821.04(b). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution to require the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because Figure 15 and Figure 17 are not labeled with a figure number. An inquiry with Scanning Customer Support has confirmed that the labels for Figures 15 and 17 were cut off on the originally filed drawings and that the Figures have already been indexed with a Best Available Stamp/Sheet. Scanning Customer Support has further indicated that rescanning the document will not produce a better

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image. Furthermore, none of the corrected drawings submitted on 9/9/2004 have been labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Sequence Compliance

Applicant's statement with regard to new matter in the amendment filed 9/9/2004 is acknowledged and the application is found to be sequence compliant.

Specification

The objection to the specification is hereby WITHDRAWN in view of Applicant's amendment.

Claim Objections

The objection to claims 8 and 15 are hereby WITHDRAWN due to Applicant's cancellation of the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

The rejection of claims 1, 7, 9 & 14, and therefore dependent claims 2-6, 8, 10-13 & 15 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant

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regards as the invention is WITHDRAWN in view of Applicant's amendments to the claims.

Claims 1, 6, 9 & 13, and therefore dependent claims 2, 4-5 & 11-12, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. **These are new rejections necessitated in part by Applicant's amendment.**

Claims 1 and 9 recite a reaction mixture/kit comprising "a first oligonucleotide primer comprising i) a sequence corresponding to a T7 promoter, ii) a sequence corresponding to a ribosome binding site, iii) a start codon, iv) a sequence coding for a first epitope marker, and v) a region of complementarity to a region to the APC gene" in lines 2-5.

Claims 1 and 9 are vague and indefinite in that the metes and bounds of a sequence "corresponding to" a T7 promoter and a sequence "corresponding to" a ribosome binding site" are unclear. Does Applicant intend a correspondence of as little as one nucleotide to any nucleotide within any T7 promoter, or does Applicant intend a sequence complementary to a full-length T7 promoter? Furthermore, it is unclear whether Applicant intends a primer wherein the primer comprises sequences which are

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complementary to the recited structures: T7 promoter, a ribosome binding site, start codon, epitope marker; or whether Applicant intends primers comprising the structures themselves.

Claims 6 and 13 recites the limitation "said region of complementarity" in line 1 of each claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim because both the first and second oligonucleotide primers comprise a region of complementarity and it is therefore unclear which region of complementarity is meant.

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement is hereby WITHDRAWN in view of Applicant's amendments to the claims and in view of Applicant's arguments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

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The rejection of claims 1-6, 8, 9-13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rowan et al (*Human Mutation* 9:172-176, 1997) is hereby WITHDRAWN in view of Applicant's amendment to the claims.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

The provisional rejection of claims 1-6, 8-13 and 15 is hereby WITHDRAWN in view of Applicant's amendment. It is noted for the record that Applicant did not explicitly respond to this

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rejection, but that Applicant's amendment to the claims which limits the epitope marker comprised in the primers to those of SEQ ID NOS: 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 obviates the previous rejection.

Conclusion

No claim is allowed.

Certain papers related to this application may be submitted to the Art Unit 1636 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993) and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d)). The official fax telephone number for the Group is (571) 273-8300. Note: If Applicant does submit a paper by fax, the original signed copy should be retained by Applicant or Applicant's representative. NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547.

Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the

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problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent applications to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.

For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at (800) 786-9199.

Any inquiry concerning rejections or objections in this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Walter Schlapkohl whose telephone number is (571) 272-4439. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Remy Yucel can be reached at (571) 272-0781.

Walter A. Schlapkohl, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1636

November 1, 2006

Nancy Vogel
NANCY VOGEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER